

## Museum With No Frontiers (MWNF)

### VIRTUAL MUSEUM *DISCOVER ISLAMIC ART*

#### Inauguration of the Virtual Exhibitions "Discover Islamic Art in the Mediterranean"

The largest virtual museum in the world launches its latest venture on 9 May 2007: 18 Virtual Exhibitions invite visitors to discover **the great Islamic dynasties of the Mediterranean**, together with their fascinating cultural and artistic heritage. 204 monuments and sites as well as 603 artefacts from 14 countries tell the story of the protagonists of the Islamic Mediterranean between AH 41 / 661 AD (the establishment of the Umayyad Caliphate in Damascus) and the end of the Ottoman Empire in 1922.

Each of the 18 Virtual Exhibitions was conceived by a team of museum curators from both sides of the Mediterranean. More than 90 experts contributed to the creation of this new dimension of the [www.discoverislamicart.org](http://www.discoverislamicart.org) Virtual Museum. For the first time, visitors will be able to look at the region's history from a shared perspective and to approach the rich and varied world of Islamic art and architecture following the great themes of Islamic civilisation as presented by its direct heirs.

The Virtual Exhibitions are accompanied by a richly illustrated **272-page book** with 22 chapters written by 39 authors from 14 countries providing complementary information on the same topics, presenting them in a larger historical context. Published in the same eight languages, the book is available in bookshops all over Europe and the Mediterranean and via the Internet.

<http://www.discoverislamicart.org/>

